

[25 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) The National Handloom Development Corporation (NKDC) Ltd., Lucknow had taken up several programmes in the State of Andhra Pradesh as a pari of its developmental activities *i.e.* 6 Dyers Training Programme each during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 on Eco-friendly Dyes with the objective of giving opportunities to traditional dyers and printers to give them information about the new products and dyeing procedures and covered 1503 beneficiaries. During 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, total 6 Laboratory Training Programmes, 2 and 4 respectively, were organised for the benefit of 32 weavers. During the year 1999-2000 one Exhibition on Appropriate Technology and one Orientation Programme on Quality Dyeing Units were organised. NHDC had also supplied Yam under Mill Gate Price Scheme to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh in addition of Dyes and Chemicals during these years.

(b) and (c) During the year 2001-2002, the last year of the 9th Plan, the Corporation also plans to organise a number of developmental programmes in all the States including Andhra Pradesh as per its Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Setting up Handloom Marketing Complexes

4384. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up handloom marketing complexes to enable the handloom weavers to market their products there at remunerative prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many such complexes have been or proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh which is a major handloom producing State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) In order to project and sell the variety of handloom products of various States under one umbrella, the National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd. is setting up Handloom Marketing Complexes in metropolitan cities. It has set up 10 such National Handloom

Marketing Complexes so far including one in Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh in 1991-92.

Decline in textile/handloom export

4385. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a decline in handloom/textile exports of the country in the second year in a row;
- (b) whether Government have ascertained the cause of this decline;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken to check the decline in exports and boost the same in coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) As per the data of the Textile Export Promotion Councils, the textile exports have recorded an increase of 1.8% in 1998-99 and 6.1% in 1999-2000. However, there has been some decline in export of Handloom textiles, due *inter-alia* to recession prevailing in some of the overseas market as well as acute competition faced from countries like China, Pakistan, Turkey, Israel etc.

(d) The Government has been taking several steps from time to time to boost textile exports including handloom exports. Some of the important initiatives are as under:-

- (i) Government has launched Technology Mission for Cotton. One of the important ingredients of the Mission is to improve cotton processing facilities by upgrading/ modernising the existing ginning and pressing factories.
- (ii) Handloom Export Promotion Council has been taking a number of steps to promote handloom exports which include sponsoring Buyer-Seller Meets, participation in fairs in major markets, releasing advertisements in